

قاعة

amassi ends... willing to... with group

beck on another tour
March 27, (R) — United Nations special envoy Rydbeck arrived here tonight for a tour of the four countries involved in the conflict over the Western Sahara, making his second fact-finding mission within six weeks, told reporters. "I want to ask questions, listen and report back."

JORDAN TIMES

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جورن تائمز يومية عربية تصدر عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية «الراي»

Schlesinger sees setback
BETHLEHEM, Pennsylvania, March 27, (R) — The United States is absorbing a setback in the Middle East because of the civil war in Lebanon, former Defence Minister James Schlesinger said here.
"We are absorbing a setback right now as a result of the disintegration of Lebanon... the cards in the Middle East are not favourable to us," he told a university seminar on international relations last night.

King Hussein: U.S. bears share responsibility for peace

His Majesty King Hussein in a speech broadcast Saturday during his visit to the United States, said that during his fast visit to Damascus Friday, he discussed with Syrian President Hafez Assad, the sorrowful situation in Lebanon and the "blessed uprising of our people in the West Bank". Syrian and Jordanian views on all these subjects were identical, the King added.
He said "conditions in the West Bank, the will of its people to be free and their steadfastness would be his pre-occupation in his coming visit. "Israeli intransigence makes it incumbent upon us" the King added, to take further action from every angle and direction.
In a related development in Washington, where King Hussein is due on his official visit, Secretary of State Henry Kissinger today called Jordan "a strong friend" of the United States and praised its "moderation."

Khaled in UAE on fourth Gulf stop

ABU DHABI, March 27 (AFP) — King Khaled of Saudi Arabia arrived here today on a three-day visit — the first by a Saudi monarch.
Abu Dhabi is the fourth stop on a tour which King Khaled began in Kuwait, Bahrain and Qatar and on which he is also scheduled to visit Muscat (Oman).
Saudi Foreign Minister Saud Al Faisal described the visit as "an introduction to summit meetings between leaders of both countries to the benefit of bilateral, Gulf and peninsular ties and Arab ties in general."

Vinogradov imperialist plans
March 27, (R). — Soviet Ambassador to Jordan Abdel-Hadi today impeded attempts to reach an agreement in Lebanon aimed at official state following the fall of the East Peace.

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a completes Angola as refugees flee

As the South African troops completed their withdrawal from Angola, black and white, were reported to have fled into Namibia (South West Africa) today.
South African defence officials said that about 1,600 refugees made a desperate dash for safety, fearing reprisals by victorious forces of the Angolan government.

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CLOUDS OVER BEIRUT — Like an atomic bomb explosion over the Lebanese capital, a huge pall of smoke hangs over the Port of Beirut after 15 rockets had been fired. The fire was contained with the assistance of firemen from Syria, but already damages have been estimated at over \$20 million.

Argues he is entitled to them Sadat pushes for U.S. jets, missiles

WASHINGTON, March 27, (R). — Egypt's President Anwar Sadat said in an interview in the Washington Post today he wants the United States to supply his country with jet fighters and anti-tank missiles, as well as the C-130 cargo planes he has already requested.
Since he had ended Egypt's military relationship with Moscow "I think I have the right now to ask for defensive weapons," Mr Sadat was quoted as saying.
Asking for approval of the sale of six C-130s, Secretary of State Henry Kissinger has told Congress that Egypt would not be provided with any other war supplies this year.
There is considerable opposition in Congress to supplying the planes for fear it will further escalate the Middle East arms race.
Mr Sadat said he wanted F-16 jet fighters, anti-tank missiles, and some communication and naval equipment from the U.S. this year, the Post said.
The newspaper added Mr Sadat confirmed that Egypt had ordered the Soviet Union to vacate its facility in Alexandria—the Soviets' last port on Egypt's Mediterranean coast—by April 14.
Meanwhile, in Cairo President Sadat today predicted a further five lean years for Egypt and urged his people to copy the Germans after World War Two in rebuilding the Egyptian economy.
"I say that we have five more years of sweat and toil to improve our economy," Mr Sadat told the Central Committee of the Arab Socialist Union (ASU), Egypt's sole political organisation.

U.S. bases in Turkey could reopen soon

ANKARA, March 27 (AFP) — Turkey's 26 U.S. military bases and installations will be reopened swiftly if the U.S. Congress ratifies the agreement concluded yesterday by Secretary of State Henry Kissinger and Turkish Foreign Minister Ihsan Sabri Caglayangil, informed sources said here.
Though details of the agreement will only be disclosed on Monday, informed sources said that under the accord, the Turkish flag will fly at the entry to the bases and Turkish officers will keep check on base activities.
These concessions and a complete end to the U.S. embargo on weapons for Turkey, which is considered by Turkish officials to be a necessary corollary of yesterday's agreement, should satisfy the Turkish public, the sources said.
The U.S. installations include a number of electronic surveillance sites to watch the central Asian area of the Soviet Union.

Franjeh supporters call for ceasefire in Lebanon

BEIRUT, March 27, (R). — Christian rightwing leaders today called for a ceasefire in the Lebanese civil war as their forces battled to defend their sectors against leftwing assaults.
The ceasefire bid was backed by five leaders of the Maronite sect, including President Suleiman Franjeh.
They also agreed that Syria should continue with its efforts to mediate in the Lebanese crisis.
In Damascus Lebanese Socialist leader Kamal Junblatt said after meeting Syrian leaders today that it was no longer possible for President Franjeh to stay in office.
At the end of seven-and-a-half hours of talks with Syrian President Hafez Assad, Mr Junblatt told reporters that the Lebanese head of state "escapes from one place to another like someone running from his shadow in the dark."

It is no longer possible for President Franjeh to continue as he faces a petition signed by 70 (out of 99) deputies calling for his resignation," the Progressive Socialist Party leader said.
Mr Junblatt said there would be a political solution to the Lebanese crisis when a reform programme put forward by his leftwing alliance last year was approved.
Informed sources said Maronite Patriarch Antonios Khreish passed on the ceasefire request of the Maronite leaders to President Assad by telephone while Mr Junblatt was in Damascus.

The ceasefire call was accompanied by a proposal that parliament be called into immediate session tomorrow to amend the law governing the timing of its election of the president. This would pave the way for Mr Franjeh's resignation.
A broadcast statement after today's meeting of Maronite leaders said: "Should the (Syrian) mediation fail, the meeting agreed that all measures be taken to preserve Lebanon's independence and sovereignty."

The rightwing summit was held at Bkirki, set of Patriarch Antonios Khreish, overlooking the port of Jounieh.
Political observers said the Maronites statement seemed to be defensive in tone, following more than two weeks of heavy fighting during which the rightwing militia forces have been driven from several of their most prized strongpoints in Beirut.
In Beirut, fighting continued around the Hilton Hotel, the last major bastion of the rightists in the battle-torn seafront hotel district. Fires blazed in several parts of the city centre.

Police sources said over 120 people had been killed and scores wounded in Lebanon over the last 24 hours, most of them in continued fighting in the mountains east of Beirut.
Shooting and explosions continued in other suburbs encircling the city, but fighting was less fierce than in the seafront zone.
In the mountains east of Beirut, fighting continued around the village of Mtein, which leftwing forces claimed yesterday to have captured. Conservative forces described the report as "premature."

In a related development, an estimated 450 refugees arrived in the Cypriot port of Limassol today after fleeing the latest battles in Lebanon.
The number of mostly Christian refugees fleeing the conflict in Lebanon to Cyprus grows daily, with at least 1,000 having found temporary shelter on the island. Most use Cyprus as a transit point to other European destinations.
Meanwhile, Cypriot authorities announced today that they were considering an urgent request from the Beirut airport control tower, passed via the Larnaca airport control tower, for fire brigades to be sent to Lebanon. Authorities at British bases on Cyprus had received the same request.



ALL SMILES — Turkish Foreign Minister Ihsan Sabri Caglayangil and American Secretary of State Henry Kissinger shake hands after signing a four-year agreement in Washington Friday. The agreement restores defence facilities for U.S. which were closed last summer by Turkey. (AP wirephoto)



STRIKING HARD — Left wing forces in Beirut fire 106mm recoilless gun at right wing positions Saturday as the Lebanese situation deteriorated. (AP wirephoto)

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Economy of carnage

If there is a guiding plan, on either side, for the wholesale carnage that is sweeping Lebanon in what seems to be no more than a mindless war of attrition, we would be the first to declare our indebtedness to anyone who would enlighten us on the matter.

Of course, this position seemingly betrays a degree of naivete. The answer is simple, some would say. Each side is fighting to defeat the other; to the winner go the spoils.

A more sophisticated answer may be forthcoming from the more learned. The most coherent explanation, it is said, is that one side is fighting to preserve an archaic power sharing formula that couches built-in guarantees of coveted privileges, while the other is fighting to throw off the yoke of injustice. This can only come about as a result of a more modern system, one that is responsive to the needs and grievances of the public, it is argued.

Still others would say that what is taking place in Lebanon can only be seen as part of an imperialist or communist plot — depending on which side of the fence they happen to be straddling.

One fact must be acknowledged regardless of one's persuasion; namely, that the Lebanese leaders cannot escape responsibility for what is going on. They are constantly losing control over the course of events. The civil war is being fought with no clear strategy in mind, a criticism which applies without exception to the leaders of all the factions involved.

This is not to deny the existence of improvised short-term tactics followed by one side or the other between ceasefires; but a jumble of impromptu tactics does not constitute a clear minded strategy. Or are we to excuse the various people responsible for a situation that would have been utterly unthinkable just a year ago, on the ground that smoke fumes from burning towns and cities and the stench of rotting corpses dull the senses and rule out any more subtle machinations?

Perhaps no alternative is left now except for each side to try and bludgeon the other over the head. However, we would like to propose a rule to be observed in the pursuit of whatever higher goals each of the different faction is fighting for. For want of a better term, this law might most suitably be called "the law of the economy of carnage", which may be stated as follows: draw up your plans in such a way that at the end of the civil war there is something left for the victor to enjoy.

Meanwhile, those who still maintain that the conflict in Lebanon is simply a fight between Christians and Moslems would do well to remember that at the end of the first ceasefire between Chiah and Ain Al Rummaneh, the inhabitants of the respective Moslem and Christian sectors rushed over to embrace their neighbours on the other side, and that only yesterday Christians in Junieh were setting off by sea to seek refuge in the ports of Moslem Syria.



'It's time for a new horse'

NATIONAL BRIEFS

● AMMAN. — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan visited Saturday the Ministry of Labour where he was received by the Minister of Labour Issam Ajlouni who briefed His Highness on his Ministry's plans and organisation.

● AMMAN. — All Jordanian students at the American University of Beirut (AUB) are in good health, said a Foreign Ministry source Saturday following receipt of a cable from the Jordanian Embassy in Beirut to that effect.

● AMMAN. — The Director General of the Royal Scientific Society Dr Ishaq Al Farhan returned here Thursday after having participated in the Islamic Conference on Science and Technology held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia between March 21-26.

● AMMAN. — The Director General of the Jordan News Agency returned here Thursday at the end of a 3 week tour to Nationalist China and Thailand.

● AMMAN. — The Minister of Industry and Commerce Dr Rajai Muasher met Saturday with the Indian Charge d'Affairs in Amman and discussed with him the means to consolidate economic cooperation in the light of the economic and technical cooperation agreements recently signed between the two countries.

● AMMAN. — The Undersecretary of the Iranian Ministry of Culture and Tourism Fathallah Saa'dat currently here for a visit of several days toured Saturday the Al Hussein Youth City, the Royal Scientific Society and the University of Jordan where he was briefed on the services each institution provides and plans for the future.

Iraq loans Jordan JD11.5m for roads

AMMAN. The Financial and Economic delegation headed by the Minister of Finance Mr. Saem Massa'deh which is on a visit to Iraq for economic talks signed Friday an agreement with the Iraqi government according to which Iraq will provide Jordan with a JD11.5 million loan to open a road between Aqaba and the Iraqi borders, and enlarge the quays at the Port of Aqaba to speed the transport of Iraqi goods arriving via Aqaba.

The Iraqi government had previously agreed to allocate JD40 million to support Jordan's Five Years Development Plan.

USAID grant to help 5-Year Plan

AMMAN. — An agreement was signed Saturday by the National Planning Council and USAID according to which the latter will provide Jordan with a \$ 900,000 grant as part of U.S. technical assistance to Jordan.

This sum will be used for economic studies and research works on several projects included in the Five Year Development Plan. It will also serve to finance the works of consultant firms and experts needed for such studies.

The agreement was signed for Jordan by the National Planning Council President Dr Hanna Odeh and for USAID by its Director in Jordan Mr Simmons.

JV Farmers Federation elections in two weeks

AMMAN. — The second stage of the elections to the Farmers Federation which was recently established in the Jordan Valley will be held on April 14, it was decided by the Jordan Valley Commission Saturday.

This stage includes the election of the 10 members of the Federation's board of administration who are to be elected by the Federation's General Assembly which is composed of 109 farmers, members of the Councils of the 33 Development regions into which the Jordan Valley has been divided.

Candidates to the board of administration should not be members in any council of the 33 development regions and should have submitted their candidacy by Saturday noon March 27.

The first stage which consisted in the election of the members of the councils of the 33 development regions, took place early in March. 3400 farmers participated in these elections.

As for the government's five representatives in the Federation's board of administration,



H.M. King Hussein is seen at the graduation ceremony third karate course for the Special Royal Guards during which he distributed certificates to the graduates. H.M. Queen Alya, Crown Prince Hassan, Prince and Princess Alia are seated in the front row. (J.T.)

Culture, science link U Jordan for 2 years

AMMAN. — A two year cultural and scientific cooperation agreement between Jordan and the Soviet Union was signed here Saturday at the National Planning Council (NPC).

The agreement, concluded for 1976 and 1977, will form an extension of the 1967 cultural and scientific cooperation agreement signed between Jordan and the Soviet Union.

The cooperation programme stipulates that, over the next two years, the Soviet Union will provide 45 annual scholarships to Jordanian students to pursue university studies in the Soviet Union, 7 annual scholarships for post graduate studies and 10 for vocational training.

The programme also provides for the exchange of University delegations in implementation of the agreement signed last year between Tashkent

It also provides for change of experience training of specialists, text book exchange. Contacts will be maintained between the Royal Society and a Soviet academy for the exchange of experiences in the scientific research.

The two sides will change two-man delegations in archaeological expeditions.

Two cultural delegations will also be exchanged in two countries to co-operation in education.

There will also be exchange of experts and in the fields of library. The Soviet Union will train courses in science for Jordanians that field.

Dr Hanna Odeh, the NPC signed for Jordanian government, with viet ambassador to Alexi Uronin, signed viet Union.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

On His Majesty King Hussein's fast trip to Damascus Friday, Al Shaab said Saturday the Royal visit comes as a reasonable, logical trip, even a national necessity within the periodical consultations with President Hafez Assad and it comes at a time when the Arab World is experiencing a general commotion, security conditions in Lebanon are deteriorating and the West Bank uprising against Israeli occupation is assuming larger proportions.

"It is in the interest of Jordan, Syria and the rest of the Arab countries in general, and Lebanon in particular, that the Lebanese civil strife should end as early as possible, before it exposes this Arab country to outside interference, with Israel as its spearhead," Al-Shaab says.

The paper suggests that Hussein's and Assad's keenness to explore an exit for the Lebanese ordeal is no less than their determination to support the people of the West Bank in their struggle against Zionist occupation, repression and ambitious designs to colonise Arab territory.

In this context, Al Shaab deplores the American veto which blocked a Security Council resolution that would have blamed Israeli suppressive measures in the West Bank. It described the veto as an 'umbrella' which the United States has spread over the head of Israel, in defence of its ambitious and expansionist policy.

The paper thinks that His Majesty's visit to Damascus

also had something to do with the American veto.

Al Ra'i and Ad Dustour slashed at the United States veto. Under the heading "Unethical Attitude", Al Ra'i says editorially that, despite all justifications, the American veto will remain a landmark of immorality of American policy. The non-aligned draft, the paper says, did not differ much from the statements Ambassador Scranton delivered two days before. The moderate tone of the draft resolution at the Security Council synchronised with the moderate Scranton speech and was thought to, at least, make the United States abstain in the voting. But, the paper adds, Washington's justification of the veto was in complete conformity with an unethical stance...

"To any Arab, the U.S. veto means absolute support of the Israeli repressive policy and depletion of the occupied land of its Arab inhabitants, support of violations made upon the Arab character of Jerusalem, and desecration of Islamic holy places, and upholding of Israel's occupation and colonisation of U.N. member countries and Palestinian territory as well," the paper says.

"After all that, do the Americans not feel that they have become the worst enemies of their friends? Don't the friends of the Americans feel that their friendship with Washington invites shame?", the paper asks.

Ad Dustour considers the American Government's veto an example of political contradiction and blind bias in favour of Israel. It also comes, the paper adds, as a shock to all optimistic expectations that emerged following the speech of the U.S. delegate before this sudden change. The paper says the draft resolution was, in fact, moderate, containing no more than recommendations which the United Nations had previously adopted on various occasions concerning Jerusalem, the holy places and Palestinian rights, with the consent and approval of the U.S. itself. Ad Dustour says that the logic by which U.S. diplomacy has justified this hostile attitude, and similar others is completely unacceptable, particularly the claim that such an attitude would allow the U.S. to continue its mediatory role in the Middle East of holy places or aggression

against women and children, and prevents the passing of a moderately-worded decision, is a country unfit for any mediation, unless the meaning of the mediation is—as we have seen till now—unlimited political and military bolstering of the aggressive Israeli gang...! However, Ad Dustour goes on, the negative American veto has done nothing in particular in the Middle East arena, except to convince the Arabs—in case they were in need of convincing—that what sometimes seems to be an American resort to moderation and reason is but a method of 'anaesthetisation' and a tactical style to let pass the original American policy which is closely and organically tied to the interests of Zionist colonisation...

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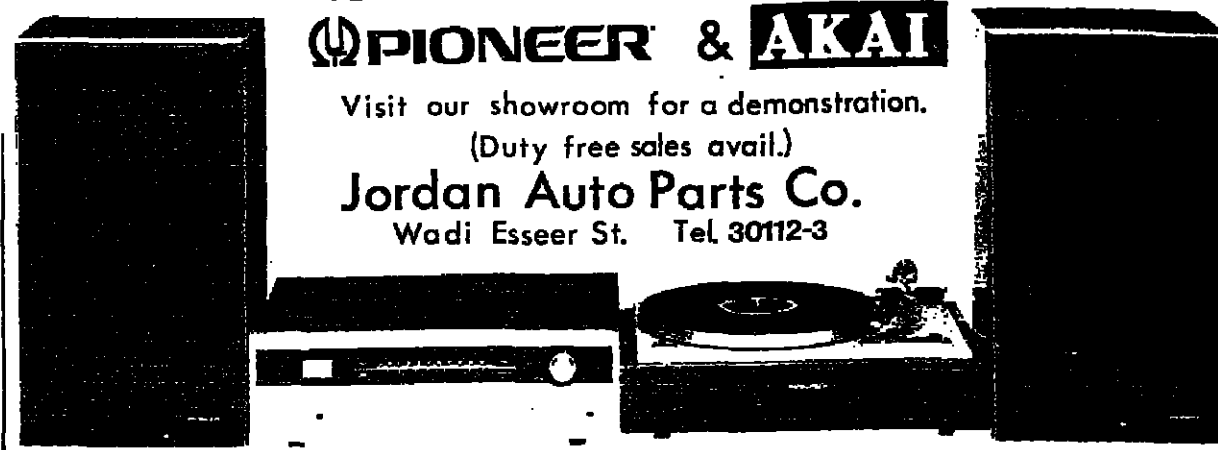
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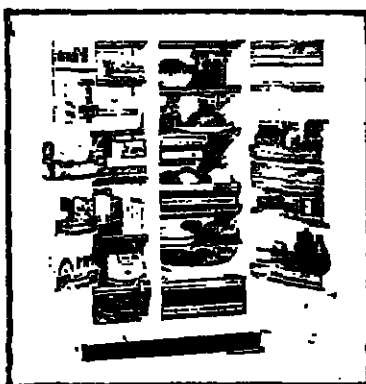
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Nigeria asks Britain to extradite Gowon

March 27, (R). — Immediate return. Officially asked British former head of state Yakub Gowon to return to Nigeria to face charges of involvement in the recent abortive coup. The request was made at a press conference here today by Nigeria's External Affairs Minister, Garba, revealing that he was himself deposed last July and is now studying politics at Marwick University in England.

Syria opts for atomic energy

DAMASCUS. — A Syrian Atomic Energy Commission has been set up by the Syrian People's Council during its current session. The Commission will be entrusted with all matters relevant to atomic energy in Syria such as training specialists, establishing research centres and training institutes and regulating the handling of atomic energy in all its forms.

The Commission will also be the official Syrian representative to any international atomic conference.



NO DADDY, PLEASE. — Melvin Davis holds his three-year-old daughter, Ebony, over the rail of a fourth floor fire escape in the Harlem section of New York Friday afternoon after a family quarrel with his estranged wife. It was reported that Davis held the child for an hour, threatening to drop her until the police managed to subdue him and rescue the child. Davis was charged with reckless endangerment and endangering the child's life.

Elaborate and flowery preparations are under way in Sri Lanka for 5th non-aligned summit

March 25 (AFP). — Bandaranaike of Sri Lanka, who will have the honour, as head of government, of the host country, of being elected chairman of the conference.

During the past fifteen years, since the first non-aligned summit in Belgrade in September 1961, the non-aligned movement has grown by leaps and bounds and today, the group represents more than two-thirds of mankind.

Twenty-five member countries attended the first summit in Belgrade. The number increased to 47 at the second in Cairo in October 1964 and the third summit in Lusaka in September 1970 saw the addition of a further six members. The last non-aligned get together in Algiers in September 1973 was attended by leaders of 75 countries.

With the non-aligned group now counting a membership of more than 80 countries, the Colombo conference promises to be the biggest party ever held anywhere in the world at the level of heads of state or government.

The Sri Lanka government over them all has been pushing ahead over the last three years with preparations to host the conference.

Bandaranaike, who will have the honour, as head of government, of the host country, of being elected chairman of the conference.

Mrs. Bandaranaike, who may be considered an "elder statesman" of the non-aligned group with the distinction of having attended all the four previous summits (a record equalled by only President Tito and Archbishop Makarios) is personally directing operations. She is heading a strong cabinet committee which directs the work of numerous other committees and sub-committees. She meets with officials practically every day looking to security, food supplies to entertainment, to ensure that everything works without a hitch.

The biggest problem facing the authorities at the beginning was the question of accommodation. Since Colombo was selected as the venue however, new hotels have sprung up and the sub-committee on accommodation is confident that they will be able to find a place for everyone coming for the conference. The heads of delegations will be accommodated in two five star hotels in the centre of the city while others will be housed in other hotels and in private houses, stretching to a perimeter of about 50 kms (30 miles) to the north and south of the metropolis. Hotels and travel agents have been asked not to accept bookings for tourists during the period of the conference so as to ease the pressure on accommodation and also from a security angle to ensure that no undesirable turn up.

The terminal building at the Bandaranaike International Airport at Katunayake, 30 kms north of Colombo, is being extended and modern equipment is being installed to cope with the traffic.

The 28 kms stretch of the main highway leading to the city from the airport is being widened, entailing the demolition of house and shop buildings with two new bridges facilitate the easy flow of streams of limousines carrying the delegates and officials. After widening it will provide four lanes

to traffic. To beautify the route with splashes of colour, orange, purple and scarlet-red bougainvilleas will be distributed to roadside residents for planting.

Colombo, comparatively one of the cleanest cities in Asia, is being spruced up with flower plants at road roundabouts. Old buildings are being given new coat paints and the beggars rounded up and moved away from the city.

Several non-aligned member countries have offered contributions both in cash and kind. Iraq has donated one million dollars, Algeria has granted \$897,000 North Korea has pledged \$500,000, Kuwait \$250,000 Yugoslavia \$500,000, Libya one million dollars and India two million rupees by way of grants and loans. Some of these cash gifts have been utilised to purchase luxury cars for the delegates.

Assistance in kind include rum, cigars and sugar from Cuba, wines, cheese, stationery and more sugar from Rumania and T.V. equipment and typewriters from Yugoslavia. Pakistan, which is not a member of the non-aligned group, has also offered to help by providing the best quality rice and horses for the mounted police.

The conference will be held at the marble-paved Bandaranaike memorial international conference hall, one of the most modern of its kind in Asia. The conference complex is an outright gift from the People's Republic of China in memory of Mrs. Bandaranaike's late husband, Mr. Yoluman Bandaranaike, who was prime minister from April 1956 till his assassination by a Buddhist monk in September 1959.

Mrs. Bandaranaike during his three and a half year premiership steered Sri Lanka away from the pro-western, stance of previous regimes and charted a non-aligned course for the country.

The conference complex, built by Chinese workmen side by side with ceylonese workers is equipped with the most modern facilities for holding international conferences. Its facilities

Is Kissinger sailing against the wind of change in southern Africa?

By Joseph C. Harsch. The United States is not a paper tiger, but the more its Secretary of State, Henry Kissinger, attempts to check and contain the Cubans by words rather than deeds, the more Dr. Kissinger himself begins to look like one.

The United States, he asserts, "will not accept any further Cuban military adventures."

We do not know at this moment of writing whether Fidel Castro is thinking of any more adventures such as his recent success in Angola. There is no hard information that his 10,000 to 12,000 soldiers who won the day for the MPLA (Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola) have been given any further marching orders. Conceivably, they might just go quietly home to Cuba.

But short of conquering the island of Cuba, which would hardly be a popular exercise right now, how does Dr. Kissinger propose to prevent Cuban soldiers from again being used by the Soviets as they were in Angola?

Take the current case of Rhodesia. There are about 22 blacks in Rhodesia for every white, a considerable disproportion. The government of Rhodesia is entirely in white

hands. The Prime Minister, Ian Smith, continues to say that he intends to maintain white minority rule over the enormous black majority.

But Rhodesia is now surrounded on all sides except to the south by black majority countries and black governments. And all of them agree that sooner or later the black majority will come to power in Rhodesia.

Way back in 1956 the Soviet Union adopted a policy of supporting the "national liberation movement" in the outside world. It has frequently supported such movements ever since. This policy has tended, by and large, to put Moscow on what has usually turned out to be the winning side as the old colonial empires broke up and new succession governments were formed.

At first America's West European allies joined Washington in resisting some of the national liberation movements.

The French tried to remain in Indochina. They hung on in Algeria until 1962. But by then most of Asia was self-governing and the tide of rising native nationalism was in full flood in Africa.

In 1960 British Prime Minister Harold Macmillan made a tour of Britain's departing African colonies. The climax came in a speech in Cape Town on February 2. He declared that "the wind of change is blowing through the continent." By now all the old empires are gone from Africa except for a minute French toehold at Djibouti. But the United States has yet to embrace fully the policies which have been adopted by Britain, France, Portugal, and Spain.

As far as Southern Africa is concerned it still is pursuing an ambiguous policy of declaratory support for majority rule but actual trafficking with the white minority government of Rhodesia.

On March 4, Dr. Kissinger delivered one of his several verbal warnings to the Cubans. On March 5 he was thanked publicly by the Foreign and Defence Minister of the white minority government of Rhodesia, P. K. van der Byl.

If anything in this political world seems certain it is that white minority rule in Rhodesia is at the end of the road. About a year is the longest most observers think it can last, and that long only by agreeing to a peaceful transition from white to black rule.

Sooner or later, for better or for worse, the black majority will come into control of Rhodesia. And when they come to power whom will they regard as their friends?

The Soviets are backing the black cause in Rhodesia, just as they did in Angola. They are providing arms for the Rhodesian black troops training in Mozambique. They are backing the presumed winners. But Dr. Kissinger is being thanked by the last-ditch white leaders in Salisbury.

There is no law which prevents countries from lending aid to a majority seeking majority rule. The only way to prevent the Soviets and the Cubans from helping the blacks of Rhodesia is to help them yourself—first.

There would be no Soviet or Cuban advantage to be gained in Rhodesia had Washington been the first, not the last, to support majority rule in that country.

It is 15 years now since Mr. Macmillan identified the "wind of change" blowing southward across Africa.

The Soviets and Cubans have chosen to set their sails before that wind. They are sailing with it. Probably they will get some advantage from it. There is no advantage to be gained by trying to sail against the wind. To shout against it is even less productive. (C.S.M.)

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ILO report recommends measures to eradicate poverty

GENEVA, March, 27 (AFP). — If nations would devote their resources and efforts to the needs of the poor, poverty could be banished from the world by the year 2000 the International Labour Organisation (ILO) has said in a report here.

The report estimated that in 1972 there were 700 million people suffering acute malnutrition and recommended "a new strategy of development aimed at overcoming the most obvious inequalities."

Titled "Employment, Growth and Essential Needs," the report underlined that the number of poor and illiterate people in the developing countries has increased in recent years in spite of rapid economic growth.

It went on to say that subject to certain structural changes — agrarian reform, redistribution of wealth and property and economic reform, the developing countries could obtain their economic and social objectives by the year 2000.

This was based on an annual growth of between six and seven per cent, and the ILO report added that if the structural changes were not made, then an annual growth of between nine and 12 per cent would be required to give the same result.

The report also said that 67 per cent of the people in the developing countries were living in "great poverty" and that preliminary figures for 1975, indicated that 40 per cent of them were either without work or insufficiently paid.

\$127.6m loan granted to Argentina by IMF

WASHINGTON, Mar. 27 (AFP). — The International Monetary Fund (IMF) today announced its decision to grant Argentina a loan of \$127.6 million and called on the new Argentine government to take measures to halt inflation.

The request for the loan, originally made by the government of President Isabel Peron, was renewed yesterday by the military junta that overthrew Mrs. Peron in a bloodless coup on Wednesday.

The sum granted was the absolute maximum the IMF would allow a country in Argentina's present financial situation, IMF sources said, adding that Argentina could have access to unconditional credits of up to \$400 million if it took measures the IMF considers essential.

One measure would be to stop the highly inflationary practice of covering current budget deficits with central bank currency issues, IMF sources said.

Argentina's quota in the IMF is \$510 million, on which the country has drawn a total of \$545 million counting the loan announced today.



MOVING EAST, — American Presidential hopeful Jimmy Carter, Democrat, is greeted during his campaign in Rochester, New York, Friday. (AP wirephoto)

North-south dialogue concludes second round of negotiations

PARIS, March 27, (R). — The second round of new negotiations between rich and poor nations ended here yesterday tonight on an inconclusive but optimistic note.

No concrete proposals or decision emerged from the week-long talks involving some 800 representatives from major industrial states, oil exporters, developing nations and international organisations. But spokesmen for the four specialist groups which are handling the bargaining all expressed satisfaction with the way things are going.

With the preliminary sparring out of the way, officials predicted some tough bargaining when negotiations resume on April 21 in the four commissions on energy, raw materials, development and finance.

Industrial nations' interests in the so-called north-south dialogue centres on the energy commission, which provides them with their first opportunity to negotiate directly with major oil exporters such as Iran, Saudi Arabia and Iraq.

The energy commission finished its meeting yesterday with agreement to proceed at its April session to a full examination of the oil prices issue.

The other three commissions ended their meetings with most movement discernible in the raw material group co-chaired by Peru and Japan.

The oil-producers and developing countries which have so far maintained an impressive solidarity in the talks, presented a detailed list of proposals which they contended would improve the often wildly fluctuating commodity markets.

These included suggestions for the creation of buffer stocks of commodities, the "indexation" of raw material prices to western inflation, access to the markets of industrial nations for producers and their participation in the transport, marketing and distribution of commodities.

The industrial states did not make proposals of their own at this stage but are expected to next month, officials said.

The development commissions, presided over by Algeria and the European Common Market agreed on the need to boost food production in the Third World with the aim of reaching self sufficiency.

But delegates recognised that this was a longterm aim and the developed world would have to continue providing aid in the meantime.

The finance commission analysed the world economic and financial situation, and delegates agreed that the current account deficit of non-oil producing countries last year was \$40,000 million.

Agreement on this figure gives the commission an accepted basis for further negotiations, officials said.

Will the Italian lira bring Catholic-communist "compromise"?

The fight to save the Italian lira has brought one step closer possible cooperation between Italy's two biggest parties, the Christian Democrats and the Communists.

Before announcing his latest austerity measures to prop up the falling lira, Christian Democrats Prime Minister Aldo Moro called in for a 90 minute consultation Communist Party leader Enrico Berlinguer.

Reflecting Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger's often voiced concern about Communist participation in government of NATO member countries, an embassy spokesman said that if the Communists entered the Italian government, it "would call for a reassessment" of American economic military and other relations with Italy.

One of Mr. Berlinguer's top associates in the party said the party leader had told the Prime Minister that the Communists were ready to help carry out the austerity program in return for some kind of role in governing.

This has long been Mr. Berlinguer's aim — "historic compromise" between the two biggest forces in Italy, Catholicism and Communism. But until now the Christian Democrat leadership was not willing to be seen even talking to the communists.

Mr. Moro's spokesman sought to soft pedal the significance of the meeting between the prime minister and Mr. Berlinguer. He said: "It does not signify any modification of the present political picture."

Reuter quoted informed sources as saying that Mr. Berlinguer had in fact been consulted on at least three separate occasions by the prime minister in the past two years. This may well be factually correct; but if these meetings did in fact take place, they were not out in the open as was this recent one.

Prime Minister Moro heads what is widely seen as the weakest government in Italy since the end of World War II. It is made up of only Christian Democrats and got its initial vote of confidence last month only through the abstention of other parties.

The Christian Democrats are the biggest single party in Italy — as they have been continuously since the post war restoration of Italian democracy.

Until now they have kept the Communists, the country's second biggest party, at arms length, preferring from the sixties onward to experiment in coalitions with the non-Communist left, particularly the Socialists.

Ford cites record military budget as campaign issue

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, Mar. 27, (AFP). — On three

times over the last two days in appearances in San Francisco, Los Angeles and Fresno, President Gerald Ford has used his record military budget for 1977 as a tactical weapon in the presidential election campaign.

Replying to attacks from his Republican rival Ronald Reagan over the \$12,000 million budget, Mr Ford said in Los Angeles that he was not prepared to play "Russian roulette" with the security of the United States.

It was Mr Ford's first appearance on former California Governor Reagan's home ground since the primary campaign began. The primary election in California is to be held on June 8.

In San Francisco, Mr Ford condemned Democrats who were urging a \$7,000 million cut in military expenditure.

California is the head of the U.S. aeronautic and electronic industry and produces the Cruise missile—one of the weapons provoking most discussion in the U.S.—Soviet Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT).

In Fresno Mr Ford reaffirmed his intention to follow a peaceful policy backed up by force without risking a nuclear

clash. For the first time, Mr Ford also attacked former Georgia Governor Jimmy Carter who is now considered a more formidable Democrat opponent for the presidency than Senator Hubert Humphrey.

Before returning to Washington tonight, Mr Ford will speak at Lacrosse in Wisconsin where he will once more contest the Republican vote with Mr Reagan in the primary election on April 6.

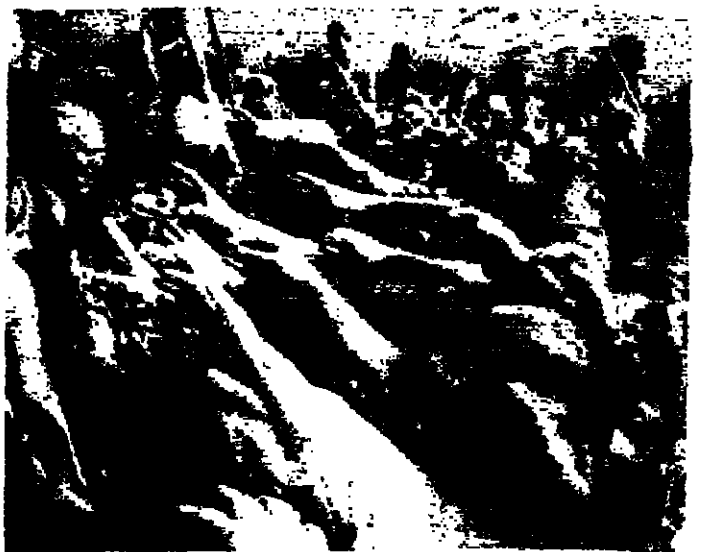
Lomé convention to be held to aid European former colonies

BRUSSELS, March 27 (AFP). — The Lomé convention will go into effect on Thursday (April 1) between the nine countries of the European Common Market and 46 states in Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific.

The 46 are mostly former colonies of western European countries.

The part of the convention requiring the Euromart to abolish tariffs and quotas on 99 per cent of imports from the 46 countries already went into effect last July 1.

Starting on April 1, an \$84 million a year Euromart fund will be available to compensate



IN REAGAN TERRITORY, — American President seen upon his arrival in Los Angeles, California, a fund raising campaign appearance. (AP wirephoto)

the 46 if their export earnings on 12 basic raw materials slump more than 7.5 per cent below the average of the four preceding years.

The poorest among the 46 will be entitled to financial compensation in case of a 2.5 per cent decrease in earnings.

The compensation fund is for groundnuts, cocoa, coffee, cotton, coconut, oil-palm products, hides and leather, wood, bananas, tea, raw sisal and iron ore. The world recession caused a

decline in European timber and leather that will require compensation for those products. Cheysson, a member of the European Commission, said at a press conference that the fund was for stabilizing prices.

He said requests for compensation from countries like Gabon and Congo would be considered. The convention, Lomé, Togo, on year, also guarantee nine will import 1.4 of sugar annually and pay at least as nine guarantee to garbeet growers.

The convention will provide \$3.40 million to the Development Fund investments in the March, 1980. Most will consist of grants

have indicated they about 40 per cent of subsistence economic areas. A ministerial conference will review the application convention. The convention will meet for the first time in Lomé, Togo, next June.

Mr. Cheysson said the convention would entail an unpopular wave of dismissals, and the government hoped to present the decision as a joint Franco-British step.

The French are expected to do their utmost to convince the British to delay such a decision, which—in the French view—would be interpreted as capitulation to the Americans and proof that Concorde was not a good deal.

Observers in London suggested that the British denial was issued because a halt to production would entail an unpopular wave of dismissals, and the government hoped to present the decision as a joint Franco-British step.

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But while the statement described the reports as "incorrect" it noted only that no decision would be made on the Concorde's future before the Monday meeting in Paris between French Secretary of State for Transportation Marcel Cavaille and British Under-Secretary for Trade and Industry Gerald Kaufman.

The association said in a report that foreign financial institutions now totalled 200, compared with 150 in 1974 and 60 in 1967. It deplored that the foreign banks, which drained more and more capital from the national banks, were not subject to the same restrictions as the latter.

Of the 200 foreign branches, 125 are in Toronto and 59 in Montreal. They are owned mainly by Japanese, U.S. British, German, French, Swiss and Netherlands interests.

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مكتبة النخيل

Hell will freeze over before I go out on parole ! ”

California (AP) — Scott could not walk into the courtroom without a rocky splash as the roses bloom beside him.

He refuses to accept a parole that would end his life. He did not want to be a healthy socialite, and to amount to a guilty conscience.

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Scott said he didn't report her missing because she had disappeared before and he had hired his own investigators.

He was indicted on charges of forgery in handling her estate. The charges later were dropped. He fled to Canada and was arrested at the border after a year-long manhunt.

In the meantime, Scott had been indicted on charges of murdering his wife.

He tells tale of terror and implies he was forced to flee because his life was in danger. He says there was a conspiracy to get him out of the way, to kill him or put him behind bars and to claim his wife's money.

He does not identify the alleged conspirators.

He was kidnapped and beaten up for 19 hours by men who

wanted him to stop searching for her, he said. He said he was followed day and night by goons, that cars surrounded him and tried to run him off the road that he spent night after night in different motels to keep his whereabouts secret.

He believes his wife alive after he was convicted of her murder and says she may have been kidnapped.

In 1963, he says, a lawyer went to see him in prison and wanted him to sign papers divorcing Mrs. Scott. "I was told to either sign or get a shove in the back," said Scott. "But how in the hell can you divorce a dead woman?"

Scott, a healthy, distinguished looking man, carries a walking cane since he injured his hip in prison. He implies he needs it for protection.

After 17 years in prison, Scott still wears his prison garb neatly starched and creased, with the practices of a man accustomed to well tailored suits.

Scott has filed one appeal after another and has accumulated more than 500 pounds of legal documents. He spends virtually all his time working on his case with the help of a new lawyer, William Hestel of San Francisco.

"Scott's trial was a black eye for the entire judicial system," says Hestel.

"We're going to find, I think that Mrs. Scott is dead. I believe she died several years ago. All I know is that my client didn't kill her. She was an emotionally unstable and unbalanced woman who fled when she felt there were problems she didn't want to face."

"I believe she left, and once she saw the problem she was undergoing she kept on running."

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from U.S. District Court Judge Robert Peckham in San Francisco.

Peckham said Scott's case "is far from frivolous" but denied his request for a writ of habeas corpus, saying he had not exhausted state remedies.

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ADAMANT INMATE — Leonard Ewing Scott, photographed in San Quentin, Calif., Prison after 17 years as a prisoner refuses to accept the parole now offered him.

Ali to try his stuff against Japanese wrestler

NEW YORK, March 25 (APF).

— Fight promoters confirmed at a press conference here today that world heavyweight boxing champion Muhammad Ali of the United States will meet Japanese wrestler Antonio Inoki in a unique challenge match in Tokyo on June 26.

The bizarre contest, in which Ali will box while Inoki wrestles, will be staged during the day, organisers said, so that it can be televised live in the United States on June 25.

Billed as the "world championship of the martial arts," the fight will pit Ali against a 6ft 5in giant of a man who weighs 120 kg.

Inoki will reportedly receive \$3.5 million for his part in the fight, which is being financed by three "American" television companies.

Ali was reported to be getting a purse of four million dollars for the 15-round contest.

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Catering-the grace is gone

NEW YORK, (APF). — "The glorious days are over. The days when money flowed like water are gone," sighed the head of a chic New York catering service. "The days of parties for which we sent bills of \$60,000 are no more."

And worse, lamented Isabella Mayer of Charles Wilson Ltd. even the more modest bills for catering are not getting paid these days.

"I can almost tell whose money I'll have to wait for. You wouldn't believe the names of those who have kept me waiting for months and months," Mrs. Mayer said, nodding knowingly. "They put up such big fronts with their big cars and chauffeurs but never pay their bills."

Mrs. Mayer has been deliv-

ering such delicacies as clams oregano and Grand Marnier soufflé to the homes of the very rich for almost 40 years. There used to be up to 450 parties a year thrown in a big way by names like wanamaker and Du Pont, who clamored for her services. Her specialty was debutante parties.

"And they're almost extinct now. Instead of inviting 200 guests to a country estate now people only invite 30 or 40," said Mrs. Mayer who flutters at the thought.

Mrs. Mayer expressed her nervous shock at the memory of weddings where nothing more than dainty little sandwiches were ordered. And that Rockefeller party where only half of the guests invited for cocktails received dinner invitations. And their the menu was—can you believe it? chicken a la king.

People are entertaining less and in smaller numbers, Mrs. Mayer has sadly concluded. Even her average fee of \$25 per person including rented china and glassware whether you want it or not it is too much for some of her old clients. Humble chicken in almond sauce has replaced plump cuts of veal in the dinner plates.

Fortunately, Mrs. Mayer said, the business once boomed by lavish parents of debutantes has been supplanted by

big corporations who use caterers for luncheon meetings. But there are still those unpaid bills.

All over town, jewellers stores, florists complain about delinquent bills.

The treasurer of an exclusive Fifth Avenue department store said some of their clients pay their bills only once a year when that trust payment comes through.

"Once you get used to it, it doesn't hurt so much," he said and asked not to be named.

"If you want to keep those big accounts, you go along with it," said Alfred Montezions, president of Catier "It's part of our business. We have to finance certain customers."

But the store is always on the watch for news of regular clients going bankrupt.

But Animal Gourmet, which features take-out orders of steak and kidney ragout and poached fish for elegant dog diners, has no problems with unpaid bills.

"Thank God, we've never had one check that bounced," said owner Wilbrod Poulin. "We don't even send out bills. People pay promptly."

Poulin said some monthly bills have run into hundreds of dollars.

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Portugal sets up elite riot control unit

LISBON, March 27, (R). — A new police force was born in Portugal today—a riot control unit of 350 men in blue fireproof uniforms trained in secret behind the presidential palace.

The police, the first trained in riot control since the revolution of April 1974, were created as a pillar of democracy, a force forged so that "reason may win" in this disturbed nation, an official spokesman said.

Several Portuguese security experts have been sent to Britain on courses over the past year and Portugal is reliably reported to have bought 1,250,000 sterling worth of British anti-riot equipment of a type used in northern Ireland.

The task force has been introduced against a background of rising political violence that has renewed fears of a possible coup before next month's elections.

A fight between Maoists and Communists broke out in central Lisbon today and two people were wounded by gunfire.

Two more were injured in clashes with stones, chains and rubber truncheons.

The incident occurred 25 yards from a police station, but no arrests were made, highlighting the ineffectiveness of the present security system.

Major Antonio Coimbra, commander of the new force, said

today the aim of the regiment would be to guarantee civil liberties. He promised it would maintain strict political neutrality.

Portugal's military leadership, betraying an increasing irritation at press criticism of the armed forces, today ordered the government news agency ANOP not to reproduce any personal attacks on President Francisco da Costa Gomes.

ANOP director Alfredo Costa said his organisation would

not publish any insults against General Costa Gomes, but would continue to report criticism.

Speculation increased that the military might try to set up press controls.

The head of the Lisbon military region, Brigadier Vasco Lorenzo, yesterday was quoted as saying the press had paved the way for a right-wing dictatorship here in 1926 and warned that this would not be allowed again.

IRA bomb injures 71; Ulster violence takes new shape

LONDON, March 27, (R). — More than 70 people, including several children, were injured here tonight when a bomb exploded without warning at a crowded exhibition centre.

A spokesman at Scotland Yard police headquarters said 71 people had been taken to hospital, some of them in a serious condition.

The explosion ripped through the first floor of London's Olympia Centre where thousands of people were visiting the Ideal Home Exhibition, an annual show of housing designs, furniture and household goods.

It was the 14th bomb attack in London this year, and police were working on the theory that the two pound explosive

device was planted by the guerrilla Irish Republican Army (IRA) which is fighting for British withdrawal from Northern Ireland.

In Northern Ireland guerrillas for the first time systematically bombed houses belonging to what they described as members of the ruling class and warned of more to come.

The four houses attacked were all in the quiet, costly Belfast suburb of Malone, hitherto relatively free from sectarian violence. There were no injuries.

The Belfast Brigade of the Provisional Irish Republican Army (IRA) later issued a statement claiming responsibility.

It said "as the number of British army raids on working class homes continue to rise, so too will the number of Belfast Brigade operations carried out against the homes of the rich and ruling class."

The planning of bombs in elegant houses of the wealthy by armed men is something new in Northern Ireland's seven years of strife.

Alia profits in 1975: JD334,000

AMMAN. — (JNA). — Net profits of Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline, in 1975 stood at JD 334,000, an increase of 50 per cent over 1974.

Alia registered the profits despite interest payments totaling JD 922,000 on loans acquired for the purchase of aircraft.

The airline's gross revenue reached JD 17.7 million of which JD 12.7 million was in foreign exchange. Expenditure amounted to JD 17.4 million of which JD 9 million was spent inside Jordan, and the remainder in foreign currency. Thus Alia's contribution towards the Jordanian balance of payments stood at JD 4 million.

The carrier's assets reached JD 28 million as of the end of 1975, compared to JD 21 million in 1974. This amount includes the cost of aircraft and engines worth JD 19.7 million in 1975, compared to JD 15.4 million in 1974.



RANGERS STILL TOP. — Photo shows Queen's Park Ranger David Webb (left) head the ball past Manchester City's goal keeper Joe Carrigan, (right) and an unidentified defender, to score his team's only goal in its 1-0 victory at Loftus Road Stadium in London Saturday. The win kept Rangers at the top of England's first division. (AP wirephoto)

Angola contacts OPEC about becoming a member

ALGIERS, March 27, (Agencies). — Angola plans to join the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), Angolan Prime Minister Lopo do Nascimento has said in an interview published here by the daily Al Moujahid.

Mr Do Nascimento, who left here today after an official 48-hour visit to Algiers, told the newspaper that his country had already contacted OPEC member nations at the bilateral level in preparation to a membership request.

Mr Do Nascimento strongly criticised the U.S. Gulf Oil Company for refusing to extract oil in the Cabinda enclave until the completion of negotiations with the Angolan government.

Gulf Oil's attitude, the Prime Minister charged, "constitutes economic aggression because the halt in drilling makes us lose more than \$ 1.5 million a day, which is economically intolerable for Angola."

In Pittsburgh, meanwhile, Gulf Oil today said it had received an offer from the Angolan government about reopening the oilfields in Cabinda.

A Gulf spokesman told Reuters in a telephone interview that he could not comment on what the offer contained, but said that the company was examining it.

The Cabinda fields, which at their peak produced about 133,000 barrels a day, have been closed since December when the U.S. State Department asked Gulf to withdraw its personnel because of the Angolan civil war.

South Africans kill 7 guerrillas

PRETORIA, March 27 (AFP).

Seven guerrillas of the South West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO) were killed and an unknown number wounded in a clash with South African forces in Ovamboland (northern Namibia) last week, a South African army communiqué said here today.

The army communiqué said the surviving SWAPO guerrillas were being pursued.

U.K. football roundup Rangers stay on top

LONDON, March 27, (R). — Manchester United set Queen's Park Rangers clung to their lead in the English soccer league championship when they edged to a tense 1-0 triumph at home to Manchester City today.

A close-range header from David Webb nine minutes from the end of a rugged match was enough to preserve Rangers' one-point lead at the top of the first-division table.

Six minutes earlier the match had exploded when Asa Hartford of Manchester City and Dave Thomas of Rangers got involved in a skirmish.

Punches and kicks were exchanged before Hartford was ordered off by the referee, but the scuffling continued among some of the other players before police intervened.

The victory took Rangers to 51 points with five games remaining and set the scene for a barnstorming finish to the championship, with the other three title contenders all winning today.

Second-placed Manchester United cruised home 3-0 against Middlesbrough and were joined on 50 points by defending champions Derby County who won 4-2 at home to Birmingham.

Liverpool, who like Manchester United have a game in hand over Rangers and Derby, stayed two points behind the leaders by winning 2-0 at home to Burnley.

las were being pursued.

The communiqué also announced that a South African soldier was killed in the Angolan border area yesterday when his vehicle struck a landmine.

The explosion came as a group of foreign and South African journalists were visiting the area to see South African troops leave Angola, the statement said.

Denktash outlines federal settlement for Cyprus

NICOSIA, March 27 (AFP). — Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktaş will submit a proposal to the Secretary General of the United Nations next week designed to resolve the Cyprus question, it was revealed here today.

The proposal, outlined to a group of reporters from the Greek Cypriot daily Simini will be based on the following four points.

Formation of a federal republic with two defined geographical zones.

Formation of a central government possessing limited power and in which the two communities would be represented on an equal basis.

The new regime would be guaranteed by Greece and Turkey.

The new constitution would forbid the union of the Greek zone with Greece, or the Turkish zone with Turkey.

Meanwhile Nicos Sampson, who assumed the presidency of Cyprus for eight days in 1974 will be tried on May 10 on charges of carrying out or aiding warlike undertakings against the state, a court ruled today.

The former EOKA guerrilla, who briefly took on the presidency after the coup in which Archbishop Makarios was forced to flee, was ordered to remain in custody in the central prison pending his trial.

Good health is never cheap

AMMAN. — The Ministry of Health is studying the construction of a second nursing college to house 500 female students. The project's costs are estimated at JD 530,000, sources said.

The Ministry is also studying the establishment of eleven health centers and 5 clinics in areas deprived of such services.

The cost of each health center is estimated at JD 85,000 and comprises a general clinic, dentistry, childcare and maternity services. A small operation room will be set up in each of the clinics with 10 to 15 beds. Costs are estimated at JD 120,000 for each clinic.

The Ministry is planning to entrust a consultant company to prepare a comprehensive plan for the expansion in health services and unification of hospitals and their designs to decrease expenses and raise the level of health services.

Vinogradov, Khaddam censure plans

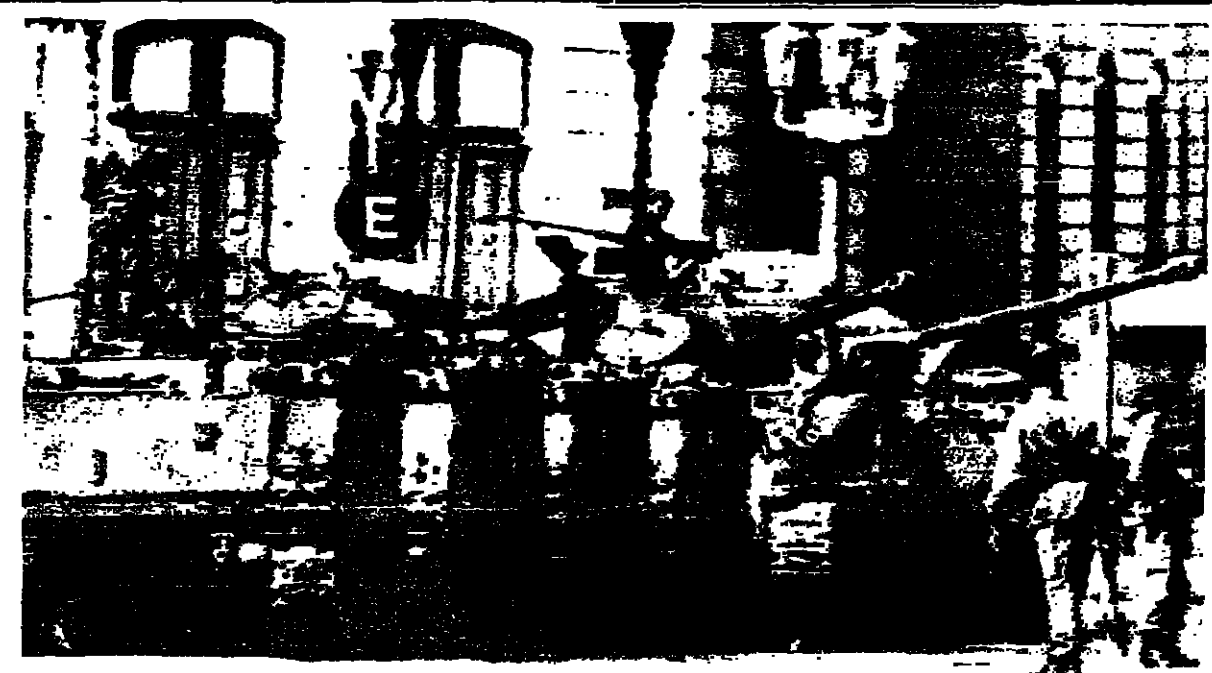
(Continued from page 1)

Mr Khaddam affirmed to the Soviet official that Syrian mediation in Lebanon was being conducted with all parties concerned within this framework.

The statement said Mr Khaddam reiterated to Mr Vinogradov Syria's firm stand of rejecting proposals "designed to freeze or prolong the situation in the region."

Syria opposes any partial or phased settlement, and the policy of ending the state of war is only another form of the American step-by-step policy which has proved a failure and which Syria had rejected, Mr Khaddam said.

It concluded by saying that Mr Vinogradov and Syrian leaders shared completely identical views and it was agreed to hold further consultations and establish more coordination between Syria and the Soviet Union for the next stage.



ARGENTINA AWAITS. — These tanks lining Buenos Aires' main streets offer solid testimony to the tension prevalent in Argentina as the populace waits new direction from the three-man junta which seized power Wednesday. (AP wirephoto)

Tunis orders 5 more Libyan's out

TUNIS, March 27, (R). — Tunisia today ordered five Libyan diplomats to leave the country within 24 hours, following the recent expulsion of eight Tunisian diplomats from Libya.

Relations between the two countries deteriorated last Monday when Tunisian police announced the arrest of three men they said were Libyan commandos assigned to kidnap or kill a so far unnamed leading political figure here.

A day later, Tunisia ordered three Libyan diplomats to quit the country, saying they were linked with the commandos.

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